

St. Paul, Minn.
Aug. 31, 1898.

Dear Folks:

Garphic received yesterday and proved very interesting both to me and Mrs. Dillon (Lanl lady) who has a son working in some factory there. She is well acquainted with the part of York State Father in from; Malone, St. Albans etc. I made the acquaintance the other day on the car of William Erwin the greatest criminal lawyer in the west. He seemed very pleased to find some one who was an Erwin with an E and we had a long talk (or he did) about the Erwins from away back. He is a York State man, and says our family originated in Norway. We are direct descendants of William De Erwyn Sec. and Armor bearer to Robert Bruce of Scotland. Our symbol is three sprigs of Laurel, given to De Erwyn by Bruce after his life being saved by De Erwyn. It is all in the life of Washington Irving who is one of Irwys descendants. I have the documents from the Public Library. I never took much stock in the ancestor business but now I find we come of such good stock I am going to learn all I can about it so when I've set up our carriage we can have the proper coat of arms. Well everything goes on here much as usual. I am slowly crawling out of the hole I got into last winter. If I stay here till the 9th of Oct. will draw 25 cents per hour. But am terribly afraid of the cold weather coming. we had one week of winter (last week) and now it is very hot again. Have made no plans yet for getting Lou back but think I must find a couple of rooms some where and keep house. It would cost too much to board us all. I would like very much to go east this winter ut can't do it as I see; and couldn't get as good job as this if I did. Wish Father was here too. Is Howard or Uncle Ed going to Fla. this winter? Yellow Jack pretty bad down there now. If Father was here he could get that firing job with Morton. If Geo. Morton stays at Capital after fall election I can fire there. Well I do hope you will find some profitable work there that wont be too hard I get a longing to see you sometimes that is hard to down, but it is next to impossible to gratify it now. Must close now. The engine has just stopped so I may not do any work this P.M. w loose considerable time that way.

Good bye and much love from V.

Envelope addressed to Mr. Jas. A. Erwin No.55 Gove St., Bridgeport, Conn.